Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 IO-14 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /131 W -------038923 130907Z /15

P 130900Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8769

UNCLAS TOKYO 10762

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAGR, JA
SUBJECT: STRAUSS/USHIBA FOLLOW-UP: MTN RESPONSE ON BEEF
- AND CITRUS

- 1. ASAHI SHIMBUN JUNE 13 REPORTS "GOVERNMENT SOURCE" DISCLOSED JUNE 12 THAT GOJ HAS FIRMED UP ITS POSITION ON CITRUS FOR MTN AND HAS DECIDED ON VIRTUAL "ZERO REPLY" TO AMERICAN REQUESTS ON CITRUS BECAUSE OF OVERSUPPLY OF MIKANS. ARTICLE GOES ON TO SPECULATE THAT U.S. MADE SUCH STRONG DEMAND ON CITRUS BECAUSE U.S. HAS LOST ENTHUSIASM FOR BEEF EXPORTS TO JAPAN BECAUSE OF RECENT BEEF PRICE INCREASES IN U.S. ASAHI REPORTER EXPRESSES DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER U.S. WILL ACCEPT JAPANESE EXPLANATIONS FOR NON-RESPONSE ON CITRUS AND NOTES THAT OPINION GROWING ON JAPANESE SIDE THAT TARIFF CUTS ON SOME OF 80 ITEMS OTHER THAN CITRUS REQUESTED BY U.S. WILL BE NECESSARY TO PERSUADE U.S. TO ACCEPT GOJ POSITION ON CITRUS.
- 2. SIGNALS THAT CITRUS IS TOUGHEST AGRICULTURAL PROBLEM FOR GOJ IN MTN HAVE BEEN FREQUENT IN PAST FEW WEEKS. IDEA THAT U.S. NO LONGER INTERESTED IN BEEF EXPORTS IS NEW UNCLASSIFIED

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INVENTION, PRESUMABLY BY ASAHI REPORTER AND NOT ANYONE IN GOJ. ASAHI WAS ONLY PAPER TO CARRY THIS STORY. MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, MEATS, CITRUS FRUITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 13 jun 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO10762
Document Source: DR

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780246-0605 Format: TEL

From: TOKYO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1 Line Count: 58

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780663/aaaaccld.tel

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 29b4bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2366555 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: STRAUSS/USHIBA FOLLOW-UP: MTN RESPONSE ON BEEF - AND CITRUS

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/29b4bc89-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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